

# Missouri State Archives

## Finding Aid [998.508]

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### MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

#### Artifacts Bestowed to the State of Missouri

*Abstract:* This collection contains three-dimensional, non-paper artifacts donated to the State of Missouri either through the Department of Revenue per RSMo §33.550 or directly to the Secretary of State or Missouri State Archives.

*Extent:* 25.1 Cubic Feet

*Physical Description:* Framed oil paintings; Stone; Wood; Resin

*Location:* Missouri State Archives; Lobby; Stacks

### ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

*Alternative Formats:* None

*Access Restrictions:* None

*Publication Restrictions:* The Fisher paintings may not be reproduced without permission from MBA; see series scope and content notes for more information

*Preferred Citation:* [item description]; [date]; *Artifacts Bestowed to the State of Missouri*, Record Group 998.508; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

*Acquisition Information:* Agency transfer; Gifts with letters of intent; Gift with deed; Accession #2021-0042, #2021-0043, #2021-0060 and #2021-0065

*Processing Information:* Finding aid completed by EW on 04/23/2021

### HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

This collection contains artifacts donated to the State of Missouri either through the Department of Revenue per RSMo §33.550 or directly to the Secretary of State or Missouri State Archives.

§33.550 reads, “**Director of revenue authorized to accept gifts.** – Whenever any devise, bequest, donation, gift or assignment of money, bonds or choses in action, or of any property,

real, personal or mixed, shall be made or offered to be made to this state, the director of revenue shall be and his hereby authorized to receive and accept the same on such terms, conditions and limitations as may be agreed upon between the grantor, donor or assignor of said property and said official, so that the right and title to such property shall pass to and vest in this state, and all such property so vested in this state and the proceeds thereof when collected may be appropriated for educational purposes, or for such other purposes as the legislature may direct.”

## ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

### Related Collections

#### On the L. Edward Fisher paintings:

RG005.42 Roy Blunt, 1985-1993 contains the original paperwork regarding the first two Fisher paintings.

RG005 Matt Blunt, 2001-2005 contains an unprocessed cubic foot box (16B/5/7 Box 6) with a folder of photographs of the dedication of the first two Fisher paintings in 1992.

RG998 MS435 Marie Oliver State Flag Collection contains another artifact donated to the State: the original state flag.

### Additional External Resources

#### On the Fiddle:

Buckstaff, Kathryn. “Fiddler’s Memory Inspires Festival.” *Springfield News-Leader*, September 12, 1996, 3B.

“Fiddler and Story Teller to Perform At Big Spring Park.” *The Current Local*, June 18, 1987, 1.

Penprase, Mike. “Fiddlers to Share Their Music after Victory.” *Springfield News-Leader*, August 12, 1987, 1B.

Penprase, Mike. “Missouri Fiddles with Bill.” *Springfield News-Leader*, June 5, 1987, 4B.

#### On the L. Edward Fisher paintings:

The Missouri History Museum in St. Louis holds a print of L. Edward Fisher’s painting “South Levee, St. Louis in 1884.”

#### On the Tartan Stone:

Duggan, Brian. “State Gets Tartan Stone.” *Bismarck Tribune*, July 24, 2009, 6B.

## SERIES

Fiddle (1987)

L. Edward Fisher Paintings (1990-2004)

Tartan Stone (2011)

Artistic Representation of the Great Seal (2020-2021)

## FIDDLE, 1987

*Extent:* 12.25 Cubic Feet

*Arrangement:* N/a

### Scope and Content

On August 25, 1987, musician Bob Walsh donated his family's fiddle and a display case to the people of Missouri through Governor John Ashcroft and the Missouri State Museum. Robert "Bob" Lee Walsh (1929-1990) was a certified master fiddler from Cape Fair, Stone County. He worked for the Missouri Department of Conservation as an area supervisor for 34 years. Walsh formed Bob Walsh and the Ozark Strings and played his fiddles throughout the Ozark region. He was the driving force behind the effort to get the fiddle approved as Missouri's official state musical instrument, which he accomplished in 1987 when Governor John Ashcroft signed HB 630.

Sometime between 1992 and July 1999, the fiddle was moved from the State Museum to the Office of Secretary of State and displayed in the James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center. A title placard on the display case reads, "FIDDLE 'Violin' Official State Musical Instrument 1987." A second placard on the top of the foot of the display case pedestal reads, "Display Case Made by Alva Hudson Reeds Spring, Mo." The main plaque inside the display case reads, "Fiddle and Display Case presented to The State of Missouri by Bob Walsh, Cape Fair, Mo. President of The State of The Ozarks Fiddlers Association. This fiddle is a copy of instruments made by Stradivarius in 1727. Handed down within the family this fiddle was given to Bob in 1933 by his father old-time fiddler Otha Walsh. The Walsh family came from Ireland in 1853 and settled in Shannon Co., Mo. This display case is made of Native Mo. Ash Wood." Finally, there is a copy of the cover to the original sheet music to "The Missouri Waltz" on display inside the case, which is Missouri's official state song.

### Container List

Location	Contents	Date
	One display case with placards, the Walsh family fiddle, cover to sheet music of "The Missouri Waltz." Case measures 24" wide x 49" tall x 18" deep.	1987

## L. EDWARD FISHER PAINTINGS, 1990-2004

*Extent:* 12 Cubic Feet

*Arrangement:* Chronological

### Scope and Content

In 1988, in honor of their upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1990, the Missouri Bankers Association (MBA) commissioned painter L. Edward Fisher to create three paintings of the Missouri River and Jefferson City as they appeared (or will appear) in 1804, 1904 and 2004. The 1804 date corresponds to the Lewis and Clark Expedition and the other two are one-hundred-year milestones. The MBA donated the paintings to the State of Missouri as a gift to the people pursuant to RSMo §33.550 (1986).

Lyle Edward Fisher (c1937-) is an artist from the St. Louis area known for his river and boat paintings and drawings. He researched the history of Jefferson City and the Lewis and Clark Expedition before beginning his paintings and incorporated the historical findings into his artwork.

All three paintings have the same perspective from the north side of the Missouri River looking southwest across the River toward Jefferson City (or, in the case of 1804, the future site of Jefferson City). Fisher completed the first two paintings (1804 and 1904) in 1990. Fisher and the MBA presented the paintings to Missouri Secretary of State Roy Blunt in June 1990.

The new James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center (JCKSIC) was completed in 1991 in Jefferson City. It houses offices of the Secretary of State, including the Missouri State Archives. The building had its grand opening on November 20, 1991, with an open house on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Fisher's first two paintings were hanging in the lobby for the occasion.

In a separate ceremony from the building opening, the first two paintings were formally dedicated to the State of Missouri and Missouri State Archives on March 27, 1992. Secretary of State Roy Blunt also presented a plaque marking the occasion to the State of Missouri during the ceremony, which now also hangs in the JCKSIC lobby. The third painting in the series, Jefferson City in 2004, was dedicated in the JCKSIC lobby on February 10, 2004.

The oil paintings on linen canvas measure 72" x 96" unframed. The frames are aluminum with a gold satin finish. They are permanent exhibits in the JCKSIC.

The MBA was responsible for all costs associated with the paintings; the Archives was and is responsible for displaying and maintaining them. In addition to the original oil paintings, the MBA also paid for limited edition prints of the paintings, which are available for purchase through the MBA.

Fisher maintains the copyright to his paintings and the Bankers Association has a license to reproduce. Fisher's paintings may not be reproduced without direct permission from the MBA.

See

[https://www.mobankers.com/MBA/Products\\_Services/MBAProducts/Lewis\\_and\\_Clark\\_Prints.aspx](https://www.mobankers.com/MBA/Products_Services/MBAProducts/Lewis_and_Clark_Prints.aspx).

### Container List

Location	Contents	Date
	<p><b>Oil painting</b> titled "Lewis and Clark." Depicts the Missouri River, the keelboat and two pirogues from the 1804 Lewis and Clark Expedition at the future site of Jefferson City. A great blue heron flies over the water. In Fisher's words, "The first painting will depict the Lewis and Clark Expedition as it was passing through the area of present day Jefferson City. According to records relating to the expedition, the party would have passed though [sic] the area about mid morning. The journal remarks that the weather was fair and partly sunny and I would suppose the date was Monday, June 5, 1804." (quoted from RG5.24 Box 68 Folder 11) Later he corrected the date to Monday, June 4, 1804.</p>	June 1990
	<p><b>Oil painting</b> titled "Jefferson City 1904." Depicts the Missouri River with river traffic and Jefferson City as they appeared in 1904, including the Capitol Building that burned in 1911. In Fisher's words, "The second painting will be a view of Jefferson City from across the Missouri River looking southeast with the river shipping traffic in the foreground. In the middle ground will be the railroad yards and main line and in the rear center background will be the Capitol Building. The year this painting will be based on is 1904." (quoted from RG5.24 Box 68 Folder 11) The view is actually to the southwest.</p>	June 1990
	<p><b>Plaque</b> presented from the Secretary of State to the State of Missouri in honor of the Missouri Bankers Association. Text reads, "In celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Missouri Banker's Association the MBA presents these paintings to the citizens of Missouri March 27, 1992. ~ This gift was the result of a concept developed by Secretary of State Roy Blunt and former Secretary of State Robert Crawford to depict changes in our state by focusing on one site on the Missouri River. Mr. Crawford was Executive Vice President of MBA (1977-1991) when this project was completed. Mr. Lawrence Rost was MBA President during the Association's Centennial." Measures 16" x 13".</p>	03/27/1992
	<p><b>Oil painting</b> titled "Jefferson City 2004." Depicts the Missouri River and Jefferson City as they appeared in 2004. Shows a Phoenix Towing boat on the River as well as sand and gravel company barges and dock. An Amtrak train and Union Pacific train travel the track in opposite directions. Visible buildings are the Capitol, Jefferson Building, Jefferson Landing, the Governor's Mansion and many more.</p>	2004

## TARTAN STONE, 2011

*Extent:* 0.55 Cubic Feet

*Arrangement:* N/a

### Scope and Content

California stone carver Frank Maurer donated a carved stone titled, "Tartan Day 1998-2011" to the Archives on August 9, 2011. Maurer's goal was to carve tartan stones for each of the 50 states and donate them to the public. He intended for the stones to honor Scottish heritage as well as represent each state individually through symbols. Each stone is carved from the same stone as that state's capitol building, meaning Missouri's is made from Carthage marble, which is actually a limestone.

The stone is carved with depictions of a Celtic knot and several of Missouri's official state symbols: state musical instrument (fiddle), state game bird (northern bobwhite), state invertebrate (crawfish), state insect (honeybee), state grass (big bluestem), state arboreal emblem (flowering dogwood), state reptile (three-toed box turtle), state bird (eastern bluebird), state animal (Missouri mule) and the state fish (channel catfish).

### Container List

Location	Contents	Date
	Stone measures 34.25" x 13" x 2.125". Signed "Fii" in the lower right corner for Frank Maurer, Jr. Side of stone is marked "Fii <u>VII</u> 2011."	2011

## ARTISTIC REPRESENTATION OF THE GREAT SEAL, 2020-2021

*Extent:* 0.3 Cubic Feet

*Arrangement:* N/a

### Scope and Content

Thomas L. Sater of St. Louis, Missouri donated his three-dimensional resin representation of Missouri's Great Seal to the Missouri Secretary of State (SOS) on January 13, 2021. The SOS is the official keeper of the Great Seal. Sater is a self-described "architectonic polychromist," which he defines as "the scholarly study of how man adorned, embellished, ornamented, and colored his built environment, throughout periods of history."

The seal was manufactured by Diamond Manufacturing in Kansas City. Sater hand-painted the cast beginning with two coats of primer. The large grizzly bears received six coats of gold and the whole seal received a clear sealant.

Sater's Great Seal is painted in color to reflect the original language of the 1822 statute that created the seal, currently RSMo §10.060 (1957):

- 1) the background of the grizzly bear portion of the coat of arms is "gules" (red) and the bear itself is "argent" (white or silver – Sater deviated and chose gold)
- 2) the background of the crescent moon portion of the arms is "azure" (blue) and the moon itself is "argent" (white or silver – Sater chose silver)
- 3) the cloud above which the 24 stars are positioned is "proper" (natural color, which Sater interpreted as white)
- 4) the 24 stars are on an "azure" (blue) field
- 5) the large star and twenty-three smaller stars are "argent" (white or silver – Sater chose silver)
- 6) the two large grizzly bears on either side of the arms are "proper" (natural color – Sater deviated and chose gold)
- 7) the six bars on the helmet are "or" (gold)

Save the U.S. Coat of Arms, all other colors are the artist's choice and are not specified in state statute.

Sater donated a second identical seal to The State Historical Society of Missouri.

### Container List

Location	Contents	Date
	Urethane resin seal 23" diameter, 1" thick; weight 11 pounds.	01/13/2021
	Material written by and gathered by the artist regarding the history of the Great Seal and his interpretation thereof.	12/22/2020